

IN THE CLAIMS

The following claims listing replaces all prior claims listings:

1 - 12 (Canceled)

13. (Original) A method for producing a positive electrode active material comprising: a mixing step of mixing a starting materials for synthesis of a compound represented by the general formula $\text{Li}_x\text{M}_y\text{PO}_4$, where $0 < x \leq 2$ and $0.8 \leq y \leq 1.2$, with M containing a 3d transition metal; and a sintering step of sintering and reacting said precursor obtained in said mixing step; wherein, in said sintering step, said precursor is sintered at a temperature not lower than 400 °C and not higher than 700 °C.

14. (Original) The method for producing a positive electrode active material according to claim 13 wherein, in said sintering step, said precursor is sintered at a temperature not lower than 400 °C and not higher than 600 °C.

15. (Original) The method for producing a positive electrode active material according to claim 13 wherein said $\text{Li}_x\text{M}_y\text{PO}_4$ is LiFePO_4 .